



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 1

Meeting Date: October 30, 2007

Meeting Location: Lake County Juvenile Justice Center
3000 West 93rd Avenue
Crown Point Indiana 46307

Council Members Present: Richard Ban, Jane Bisbee, Mary Beth Bonaventura, Melanie Cox, Rita Daniels, Alfred Fisher, Cynthia Kambesis, Jeffrey Miller, Henry Mosley, Annette Smith, Lavetta Wade, Dianne Weiss-Bradley, Lynda Wheeler

Council Members Absent: Glenn Commons, Deborah Harris, Charlotte Peller; John Sedia

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 3:34 pm

The September minutes were approved by the council members.

Ms. Bisbee will not meet individually to discuss why a proposal was not accepted for a 2007 grant. The grants were approved by the entire council and the meetings are open to the public.

The agenda was to discuss the progress reports received from the 2007 grantees:

1. Mental Health America of Lake County - *Cribs for Kids*
Kristen Verhoeve from Mental Health was present at the meeting and stated an additional 50 have been distributed since the report was filed. Even two dads came and viewed the video and attended the 20 minute safe sleep training to receive the crib. The mothers were still in the hospital and attended the training when they were released. Along with the cribs, receiving blankets and sheets were distributed. The training is also given in Spanish. At least 15 referrals are received weekly.

2. Mental Health America of Lake County

The STEP Program – Systematic Training for Effective Parenting

They have 75 participants at present time. They have provided all day Saturday classes. Classes have been held in Highland, East Chicago, Gary, Saint Monica's Home in Dyer, and Whiting. The courses are 6 session and 100% of the parents at the end of the course demonstrate a 75% increase in knowledge. This is determined from pre and post testing. The following skill areas of increase are: age appropriate behaviors and nurturing skills, effective responses to inappropriate behavior, and stress and anger management skills relating to parenting.

3 .Circle Around Families - ***Becoming Relationship and Sex Smart***

This program's goal is to reach middle school and high school students about sexuality and sexual health. The report provided a list of all the activities and contacts. A teen summit is planned for December 1, 2007. They have trained mental health professionals and have been successful in training social workers at the schools. One question was asked, has there been any feedback from the parents?

3. Gary Community Improvement Association –

Parenting Education Outreach

226 participated in the Parenting Education during 11 trainings.

37 participants participated in the survey. One surprise was that parents did not know the qualifications for graduation.

4. Gary Community Improvement Association – ***Fatherhood Outreach***

A back to school Fun Day was held on August 18, 2007. Backpacks were distributed. Thirteen workshops were held with 15 participants each. National Fatherhood Initiative Training was held September 15 and 16 in Hammond with 22 in attendance. They held a DADS Night out in Gary on September 20. They recruited 8 new DADS volunteers

5. Gary Community Improvement Association –

Vocational Hardware Training for Youth

9 youth ages 13 -17 participated in this program. In November they are having a Financial Management-High School Financial Planning Program.

6. Gary Community Improvement Association –

Family Resource Packet Distribution

262 packets were distributed.

7. Parents as Teachers – Hanover, Crown Point, Lake Station, Gary, and Hammond

The report provided showed how many families and children were receiving services as of August 31, 2007. Crown Point had 20 with an additional 20 to be added in October, Gary had 80 with an additional 20 to be added in October, Hammond had 224 families, 294 children and Hanover has 110 families with 145 children. The report mentioned the staff positions and the training. Council members had a question regarding how one school district can get more participants than another.

Due to the questions arising from the reports provided and that all reports have not been received, it was decided that at the November meeting all grantees would be requested to attend and discuss their program(s) in person and be available for questions. This would also assist in the Council's review of the proposals for 2008. Mr. Ban or Mr. Mosley will chair the November 27 meeting.

2008 proposals are due in Ms. Bisbee's office on November 1, 2007 by 4:30 pm. Ms. Bisbee will read the proposals and annotate/highlight the program and other information the council members can utilize in reviewing the proposals. They will be sent to all council members in December before the meeting on January 29, 2008. There will be no meeting in December. The January meeting agenda is to review the proposals and decide the grants.

No further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

